	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/785,862	STEWART ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Wen-Tai Lin	2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *amendment filed on 1/26/2006*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1,4-8, 11,14-18 and 29-40, renumbered as 1-24*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None of the:

        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the

           International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of

        Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.312. To

ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of

the Issue Fee.

Authorization for the examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Karl

Kenna, reg. no. 45445, on February 15, 2006.

2.   In the claims: please amend claims 1, 11 and 31 to the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A workflow integration system that allows for sharing of

workflow information among a plurality of collaboration participants, comprising:

        a plurality of collaboration participants;

a workflow server on each collaboration participant, and having stored thereon a

participant workflow that specifies process information for a project that is local to that

collaboration participant, wherein a project is a group of related tasks; and

        a collaboration server having stored thereon an enterprise workflow that defines

combined process information for the participant workflows, and that includes tasks to be

executed across the plurality of collaboration participants to achieve a combined result,

said collaboration server further comprising

a conversation initiation logic that initiates a conversation among the
collaboration participants, wherein said conversation includes a collective set of
messages exchanged accordinq to an extensible protocol, wherein said extensible
protocol allows a collaboration participant to specify both a routing information and a
business protocol, and wherein the routing information is specified by a collaboration
participant in a header of the extensible protocol; and

an integration logic that allows one of said participant workflows to interact with
and affect another participant workflow by sending messages between collaboration
participants via the conversation on the collaboration server and in accordance with the
enterprise workflow, wherein each participant may choose to use any of a plurality of
business protocols that are supported by the system for conversation.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for integrating workflows comprising the steps of:

storing an enterprise workflow on a collaboration server, wherein said enterprise
workflow includes process information for a plurality of participant workflows, and
wherein said enterprise workflow includes a group of tasks executed by the collaboration
server across the plurality of collaboration participants, to achieve a combined result;

storing a participant workflow on each collaboration participant server, wherein
said participant workflow specifies process information for a project local to that
collaboration participant, wherein a project is a group of related tasks;

initiating a conversation among the collaboration participants, wherein said
conversation includes a collective set of messages exchanged according to an extensible

protocol, wherein said extensible protocol allows a collaboration participant to specify

both a routing information and a business protocol, and wherein the routing information

is specified by a collaboration participant in a header of the extensible protocol; and

 providing an integration logic that allows one of said participant workflows to

interact with and affect another participant workflow by sending messages between

collaboration participants via the conversation on the collaboration server and in

accordance with the enterprise workflow, wherein each participant may choose to use any

of a plurality of business protocols that are supported by the system for conversation.

31. (Currently Amended) Aworkflow integration system that allows for sharing of

workflow information among a plurality of collaboration participants, comprising:

 a plurality of collaboration participants;

 a workflow server on each collaboration participant, and having stored thereon a

participant workflow that specifies process information for a project local to that

collaboration participant;

 a collaboration server having stored thereon an enterprise workflow that defines

combined process information for the participant workflows, said collaboration server

further comprising

 a collaboration space that stores a conversation among the collaboration

participants, wherein said conversation includes a collective set of messages exchanged

according to an extensible protocol, wherein said extensible protocol allows a

collaboration participant to specify both a routing information and a business protocol,

and wherein the routing information is specified by a collaboration participant in a header

of the extensible protocol;

a plurality of business protocol handlers, each of which are configured to use a

different business protocol;

a transport that accepts messages from the collaboration participants using any of

the different business protocols, identifies the business protocol being used, and invokes

one or more of said plurality of business protocol handlers; and

wherein one of said participant workflows can interact with and affect another

participant workflow by sending messages between collaboration participants via the

conversation on the collaboration server using any of the plurality of business protocols

supported by the system.

3.   In the Specification:

(i) On page 1, line 27, insert after "Application" – No. 09/788150 --;

(ii) On page 2, line 1, insert after "Application" – No. 09/785687 --;

(iii) On page 2, line 5, insert after "Application" – No. 09/785872 --; and

(iv) On page 2, line 9, insert after "Application" – No. 09/785693 --.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Wen-Tai Lin whose telephone number is (571)272-3969. The

examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00-5:00) .

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on (571)272-3964. The fax phone numbers for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(571)273-8300 for official communications; and

(571)273-3969 for status inquires draft communication.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Wen-Tai Lin

February 15, 2006